Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 OMB-01 OIC-04

RSR-01 /187 W

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R 231445Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2704

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BURSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, EFIN, FR

SUBJECT: GATT: TOKYO MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MULTILATERAL

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 159293

1. DE MOREL, DIRECTOR OF DREE, TELLS US FRENCH DELEGATION TO TOKYO MEETING WILL BE HEADED BY FINANCE AND ECONOMICS MINISTER GISCARD D'ESTAING AND WILL INCLUDE DE MOREL HIMSELF; BRUNET, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COLLIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS, DREE

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA: MOUTON, DEPUTY TO FRENCH PERMREP TO EC: AND COLMANT, FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA.

- 2. DE MOREL SAID FRENCH DID NOT PECT TO RAISE ANY NEW ISSUES AT TOKYO BUT WOULD REAFFIRM PREVIOUSLY STATED POSITIONS ON ISSUES ALREADY DISCUSSED. GISCARD'S SPEECH HAD NOT YET BEEN DRAFTED BUT DE MOREL SAID THAT HE WOULD STATE A STRONG FRENCH COMMITMENT TO AN OPEN TRADING SYSTEM; WOULD EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD RESULT IN ADOPTION OF MEASURES FOR PROMOTING AN OPEN TRADING SYSTEM AND FACILITATING EXPANSION OF WORLD TRADE; AND WOULD VOICE HIS CONCERN THAT THE WORLD NOT SLIP BACKWARD TOWARD PROTECTIONISM.
- 3. ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, DE MOREL EXPECTS THE FRENCH DELEGATION T TAKE THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

A) NEGOTIATING MANDATE. THE FRENCH WILL SAY THAT, WHILE THERE IS NO REASON TO DELAY THE FORMAL OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS AND THE SETTLING OF VARIOUS PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS UNTIL THE MAJOR PARTICIPANTS HAD OBTAINED NEGOTIATING MANDATES, IT IS THEIR VIEW THAT THERE CAN BE NO SERIOUS BARGAINING OR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES UNTIL AT LEAST THE U.S. AND THE EC ARE IN POSSESSION OF NEGOTIATING MANDATES. (DE MOREL STRESSED THAT THE EC'S OVERVIEW PAPER WAS NOT A MANDATE.)

B) TRADE-MONETARY LINK. DE MOREL RECALED THAT THE GOF HAD ACQUIESCED IN AN EC POSITION ON THE LINK BETWEEN THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND PROGRESS IN THE MONETARY REFORM TALKS WHICH DID NOT GO AS FAR AS THE FRENCH WOULD HAVE LIKED. HE SAID GISCARD WAS PREPARED TO REOPEN THIS QUESTION IF THERE SHOULD BE A SERIOUS DETERIORATION OF THE MONETARY SITUATION AT THE TIME OF THE TOKYO MEETING. IN DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO REOPEN THE QUESTION, THE GOF WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT NOT ONLY THE PARITY OF THE DOLLAR BUT THE DISPOSITION OF THE U.S. MONETARY AUTHORITIES TO INTERVENE IN THE EXCHANGE MARKET. IN OTHER WORDS, THE GOF ATTACHED AS MUCH IMPORTANCE TO THE ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. AS TO THE ACTUAL RATE OF THE DOLLAR. IN ANY CASE, DEMOREL SAID IF THEMNETARY SITUATION CONTINED TO BE AS FAVORABLE AS IT WAS AT THE PRESENT TIME, HE FORESAW NO PROBLEM ON THIS SCORE AT TOKYO. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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C. LDC'S. DE MOREL SAID GISCARD WOULD STRONGLY EMPHASIZE FRENCH VIEW THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD TAKE FULLY INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF THE LDC'S.

EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECONTROL. STONE

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